SARL NEWS SUNDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2013

You are listening to ZS6SRL, the official radio station of the South African Radio League, the national body for amateur radio in South Africa. The SARL broadcasts a news bulletin every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream, visit www.sarl.org.za, click on 'Amateur Radio Today' and follow the links for details. For audio via Echolink, connect to ZS0JPL-R.

You can download this bulletin and previous ones from www.sarl.org.za and also subscribe there to receive future bulletins by e-mail.

Your newsreader this morning is (name and call sign), on 145,725 MHz from Pretoria, with a relay on 7,066 MHz SSB. (Other news readers change to suit).

SILENT KEY

Johan Roos (ZS4KB) passed away on 30 October 2013 and left his wife, children and grandchildren behind.

We extend our condolences to his family.

(PAUSE)

IN THE NEWS TODAY

NEW E-PUB TO TAKE UP WHERE MONITORING TIMES LEAVES OFF
60 METRE ACTIVITY WEEKEND SARL NATIONAL FIELD DAY

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more details on these and other important and interesting items.

INTECNET TO RETURN

Starting January 2014 the SARL Interactive Technical Net returns but on a weekday night. The next Intecnet will air on the second Tuesday or Wednesday night of January 2014. Listeners are requested to indicate which night they prefer Tuesday or Wednesday.

Send us an email to artoday@sarl.org.za and indicate which night you prefer Tuesday or Wednesday?

NEW E-PUB TO TAKE UP WHERE MONITORING TIMES LEAVES OFF

When Monitoring Times publishes its final issue in December, a new electronic publication, The Spectrum Monitor, will follow in its footsteps. Monitoring Times announced earlier this year that it was ceasing publication after a 33 year run and the retirement of its publisher, Bob Grove, W8JHD.

Monitoring Times Managing Editor Ken Reitz, KS4ZR, will helm The Spectrum Monitor, which will debut in January. He explained that the new publication, "will carry virtually all of the current Monitoring Times columnists and feature writers." Reitz said The Spectrum Monitor will be available only in Adobe PDF format.

For details go to: thespectrummonitor.com/

60 METRE ACTIVITY WEEKEND

The SARL is holding a 60 Metre activity weekend starting at 00:01 on Saturday 9 November and ending at midnight on Sunday evening 10 November. The activities will be on 5260 KHz. The objective is to study propagation conditions between as many stations in as many areas of South Africa and elsewhere as possible.

Make at least one contact in as many time slots as possible. The time slots are as follows: Saturday and Sunday: 00:01 - 06:00, 06:00 - 10:00, 10:00 - 15:00; 15:00 - 18:00 and 18:00 - Midnight. Please keep an accurate log, recording both your and the locator of the station you worked and an accurate signal report.

Please at the top of your log give details of your station and the antenna and power used. Please mail the log to propresearch@sarl.org.za before Thursday 14 November. All logs received will go into a lucky draw with lots of prizes to be won. Only stations registered for 5 MHz operation may participate. Do your bit for propagation research. The information is required to prepare a report for ICASA.

NEXT SUNDAY IS REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Sunday 10 November the SARL will transmit the annual Remembrance Day Service as part of Amateur Radio Today starting at approximately 10:40 local time. All radio amateurs are requested to observe radio silence during the service as a mark of respect for those who lost their lives in service of our country. The service will be conducted in English and Afrikaans by Dominee Jan Kramer ZS6JRK.

Clubs wishing to retransmit the service on their local repeater, may download the audio file from www.sarl.org.za. A link will be activated on Sunday 10 November.

WATCH OUT FOR SPORADIC-E DX FROM ZIMBABWE AND FURTHER NORTH

Many SPORADIC-E openings were recorded from Zimbabwe, Zambia and further north from the old Band 1 TV stations during the months of November to February around midday. The sound channels were copied around 53,750 MHz FM at S9+ levels; when these TV stations closed down we lost valuable VHF beacons. Fortunately we now have three DX beacons with which to observe possible openings north of our borders, and call on 50,200 MHz SSB. They are: Z21SIX on 50,0016 MHz at Harare, V51YJ on 50,028 MHz at Windhoek and Q9ID on 50,021 MHz at Kinshasa, DRC.

Another DX beacon to look for is VK0RTM at Mawson, Antarctica on 50,300 MHz via multi-hop Sporadic-E propagation. Hal, ZS6WB, is currently in the process of erecting a number beacons on 50,450 MHz especially for the detection of Sporadic-E openings.

LEAGUE NEWS

MEMBERSHIP Application for membership of the SARL have been received from Ivor Westwood - ZS1WY.

Any objections against the acceptance of the application must reach the Secretary before or on the Tuesday after this bulletin.

RAE RESULTS Congratulations to all the candidates who passed the October RAE.

A total of 118 candidates wrote the exam and a 100 passed. The ones that have not made it must try again and register in time for the May 2014 RAE. The highest marks obtained is 100% for both Technical and regulations. Do you want to know who it is, come and attend the AGM in 2014 in Pretoria.

The people that have received their call signs may go on air. All problems will be sorted out as soon as possible by the RAE team.

All RAE enquiries must be send to the RAE Manager Gideon Jannasch. Email: rae@sarl.org.za Cell no: 072 601 0058.

DID YOU OVERLOOK PAYING YOUR SARL SUBSCRIPTION?

If you did not renew your SARL membership by 31 October you will no longer have access to the member's only section of the web and will not receive Radio ZS and other services. Pay now to be reinstated. If you need details about how much to pay and how to pay, call Mariska on Monday at 011 675 2393.
Supporting the SARL with your membership is supporting Amateur Radio. It's worth doing.

CLUB NEWS

60 METRE ACTIVITY WEEKEND

The Kempton Park Amateur Radio Technical Society (KARTS) will be running a 60 meter Beacon operating on 5.250 MHz over the weekend of 9-10 November 2013 in support of the SARL 60 meter activity weekend. Details pertaining to the digital modes and related information will be made available on the SARL Forum including the KARTS website. Please visit www.zs6kts.co.za for detailed information regarding the clubs beacon and 60 meter activity planned for next weekend.

CONTEST NEWS

SARL NATIONAL FIELD DAY

The aim of the SARL National Field Day is to work as many stations as possible on all the HF amateur bands (excluding the 30, 17 and 12 m WARC bands) and in doing so to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness as well as to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

The contest will take place on 16 and 17 November, between 10:00 UTC on Saturday to 10:00 UTC on Sunday (12:00 to 12:00 CAT) with phone, CW and digital activity on all the HF amateur bands, excluding 30, 17 and 12 metre bands. Phone, CW and Digital modes on a band are considered as separate bands. A station may be worked only once per band under this rule.

Participation can be as Class A - Field Station - Multi operator, Class B - Field Station - Multi operator - QRP, Class C - Field Station - Single Operator, Class D - Field Station - Single Operator - QRP, Class E - Ultra Light Portable or Class F- General stations. The exchange is the number of transmitters, Field Day operating Class and Provincial Abbreviation.

Log/summary sheets must be sent by e-mail to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za by 25 November 2013. An action photo(s) of the station (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry.

HF PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that after a week of high solar activity some more moderate levels can now be expected. There is a possibility of M or even X- class flares.

If you want to do your own frequency predictions, the expected effective sunspot number for the week will be around 75.

All the bands from 20 to 10 m will provide lots of DX fun with 15 m providing the best openings with 20 m not far behind.

Please visit the new website spaceweather.sansa.org.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

09/10 November - 60 m Activity weekend. 14 November - Last day to submit logs for the 60 m activity weekend. 30 November - High Altitude Balloon launch from Klerksdorp airport between 06:00 and 08:00. 30 November - SARL@Home at the National Amateur Radio Centre. 31 December - Last day to submit amateur radio video; get details from www.amateurradio.org.za. 28 February 2014 - Closing date for Youth Essay Competition.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and short-wave listeners. Submit news items - if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp, not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Today every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area, with relays on 7 082, 7 205, and 17 760 kHz. There is also a podcast by ZS6RO. For a web-stream and Echolink by ZS6FCS, visit www.sarl.org.za, click on 'Amateur Radio Today', go down the green column and click on 'LISTEN ON THE WEB'. A repeat transmission can be heard on Mondays at 16:30 UTC on 4 895 kHz. The website also lists various other retransmissions. Reception reports, comments

and suggestions are invited. Send an email to artoday@sarl.org.za. Sentech sponsors the transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have listened to a bulletin of the South African Radio League compiled and edited by Louis Kirstein, ZS1LK.

Thank you for listening, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ==========
To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp